

Attorney Docket No. 03495-0197-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

CHARNEAU et al.

Group Art Unit: 1633

Application No.: 09/685,343

Examiner: Drabik, C.

Filed: October 11, 2000

For: LENTIVIRAL TRIPLEX DNA AND
VECTORS AND RECOMBINANT
CELLS CONTAINING LETIVIRAL
TRIPLEX DNA

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement includes a certification as specified by Section 1.97(e).

Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from the European Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication.

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Copies of the listed documents, including any copending patent applications, are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language document, as recited in the English abstract:

WO 99/55892 discloses a recombinant vector characterized by a polynucleotide comprising a central initiation cis-active region (cPPT) and a termination cis-active region (CTS), said regions being of retroviral or retroviral-like origin, said vector further comprising a predetermined nucleotide sequence (transgene or nucleotide sequence of interest) and retranscription regulating, expressing and packaging signals of retroviral or retroviral-like origin.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

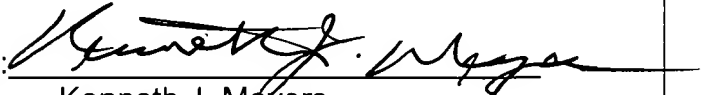
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Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 22, 2002

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